

HOUSE No. 70

By Ms. Fox of Boston, petition of Gloria L. Fox and others for legislation to provide for the registration of voters on the day of an election. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Gloria L. Fox	Ruth Balser
Byron Rushing	Patricia D. Jehlen
Dianne Wilkerson	James B. Eldridge
Jay Kaufman	Anne M. Paulsen
Frank I. Smizik	Elizabeth A. Malia
Ellen Story	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO ELECTION DAY REGISTRATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Chapter 51 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting
2 after section 34 the following section:—
3 Section 34A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the
4 contrary, the registrar or his or her designee shall accept registra-
5 tion of applicants who appear on election day at the office of the
6 registrar or their appropriate polling places, and shall permit qual-
7 ified applicants to vote on that day. The registrar or his or her
8 designee shall request and the applicant shall produce appropriate
9 proof of identity, such proof to include:
10 i. a current and valid photo identification, such as a valid
11 United States passport, a valid Massachusetts drivers license, a
12 state-issued identification card for any individual without a valid
13 Massachusetts drivers license, an official student identification
14 card, or
15 ii. other documentation used for the purposes of establishing
16 voter eligibility and demonstrating the name and address of the

17 voter, such as a current utility bill, bank statement, government
18 check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the
19 name and address of the voter.

20 iii. Documentation stating recent naturalization of American
21 citizenship.

22 Upon the production of proof of identity sufficient to support
23 registration, the registrar or his or her designee shall permit the
24 applicant to vote on that Election Day and, not later than
25 December 31 of that year, place the applicant's name and address
26 on the annual register of voters. Any person who registers to vote
27 on Election Day in accordance with this section shall, absent dis-
28 qualification, be registered to vote at all subsequent elections.

29 In order to facilitate such Election Day voter registration, the
30 state secretary shall make available, to the election officers at each
31 polling place, access to the central registry of voters set forth in
32 section 47C of this chapter.